

REQUIREMENTS FOR  
**PREK-12 PHYSICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATES**  
ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – CERTIFICATION UNIT

➤ **PROVISIONAL PREK-12 PHYSICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE**

*The Provisional certificate is valid for 3 years and is not renewable, but may be extended once for 3 years.*

**Requirements for the Provisional PreK-12 Physical Education Certificate**

1. Completed [Application for Certification](#)
2. Appropriate Fee (See Application for Certification).
3. A photocopy of your valid Arizona Department of Public Safety Identity Verified Prints (**IVP**) fingerprint card (plastic). For more information visit the [Arizona Department of Public Safety](#) website or call (602) 223-2279.
4. A Bachelor's or more advanced degree from an accredited institution. Official transcript(s) must be submitted.
5. Option A, B, or C:
  - A. Completion of a teacher preparation program in PreK-12 physical education, including 12 semester hours of practicum evenly split between elementary and secondary physical education from an accredited institution or a Board-approved teacher preparation program.
  - B. Thirty-three (33) semester hours of education or physical education courses, including the following courses: (1) At least nine semester hours of elementary, secondary and adaptive physical education methods; (2) Foundational coursework in the areas of: Growth and Motor Development, Movement Activities, Lifelong Physical Fitness and Comprehensive School Physical Activity Programming; (3) Twelve semester hours of practicum in physical education in PreK-12 grades, evenly split between elementary and secondary physical education, and supervised by a licensed or certified physical education teacher. Two years of verified full-time teaching experience in the certificate area in grades PreK-12 may substitute for the twelve semester hours of practicum. Submit a [Verification of Teaching Experience](#) form signed and completed by the District Superintendent or Personnel/HR Director to verify teaching experience.
  - C. A valid PreK-12 Physical Education certificate from another state.
6. Professional Knowledge Elementary or Secondary Exam.  
**One of the following:**
  - A. A passing score on the *NES Assessment for Professional Knowledge: **Elementary*** or the *NES Assessment for Professional Knowledge: **Secondary*** **OR** A passing score on the AEPA Professional Knowledge Elementary or AEPA Professional Knowledge Secondary (replaced by the NES Assessments).
  - B. A valid comparable certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Submit a notarized copy of the certificate.
  - C. Three (3) years of full-time teaching in PreK-12. Submit a [Verification of Teaching Experience](#) form signed and completed by the District Superintendent or Personnel/HR Director to verify teaching experience.
7. Subject Knowledge Exam.  
**One of the following:**
  - A. A passing score on the appropriate Subject Knowledge Physical Education portion of the Arizona Educator Exam ([NES or AEPA](#)).
  - B. A valid comparable certificate from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Submit a notarized copy of the certificate.
  - C. Master's degree from an accredited institution in Physical Education.

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8. Structured English Immersion (SEI) Endorsement \*

The SEI endorsement requires **ONE** of the following (option A, B, or C):

- A. Official transcript documenting a three (3) semester hours State Board approved SEI course or comparable SEI training from another state.
- B. Certificate of training documenting completion of forty-five (45) clock hours of State Board approved SEI training or comparable SEI training from another state.
- C. Teachers and administrators who hold a **Full** English as a Second Language (ESL) or **Full** Bilingual Education endorsement are exempt from the SEI requirement. Note: The Provisional ESL and Provisional Bilingual endorsements will **NOT** meet the SEI endorsement requirement.

\* **Note:** The requirements for a SEI endorsement may be waived for a period not to exceed one year for individuals who graduate from administrator or teacher preparation programs that are not approved by the Arizona State Board of Education and meet all other certification requirements.

<b>Requirements # 9 and # 10 are required within one year or three years. **</b>
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9. Arizona Constitution (a college course or the appropriate examination).

10. U.S. Constitution (a college course or the appropriate examination).

**\*\*NOTE:** *If you otherwise qualify for the certificate but are deficient in Arizona and/or U.S. Constitution you have 3 years under a valid teaching certificate to fulfill the requirement, except that if you are teaching an academic course on History, Government, Social Studies, Citizenship, Law, or Civics, you have 1 year to fulfill the requirement(s).*

➤ **STANDARD PREK-12 PHYSICAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE**

*The Standard PreK-12 Physical Education certificate is valid for 6 years and is renewable.*

Requirements for the Standard PreK-12 Physical Education certificate are:

1. Qualify and hold the Provisional PreK-12 Physical Education certificate for 2 years.
2. Two years of verified teaching experience during the valid period of the Provisional certificate may be used to convert the Provisional certificate to a Standard certificate. Submit a conversion form signed by the District Superintendent or Personnel Director verifying two years of full-time teaching experience during the valid period of the Provisional certificate being converted.
3. A photocopy of your valid Arizona Department of Public Safety Identity Verified Prints (**IVP**) fingerprint card (plastic). For more information visit the [Arizona Department of Public Safety](http://www.azdps.gov) website or call (602) 223-2279.